

Nutrition Coordinating Committee (NCC) Meeting Minutes July 5, 2001

WELCOME

Dr. Van Hubbard, Director of the Division of Nutrition Research Coordination (DNRC), convened the NCC Meeting at 2:00 p.m., and welcomed the participants. Dr. Michael McClure, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), participated via videoconference, and Dr. Deborah Galuska, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), participated via conference call. Dr. Hubbard asked the attendees to introduce themselves. The list of attendees is at the end of these minutes.

Dr. John Milner, National Cancer Institute (NCI) requested a moment of silence in honor of Dr. Carolyn Clifford who died on May 31, 2001. Dr. Hubbard noted that a memorial service for Dr. Clifford would be held on July 20, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. in Wilson Hall (Building 1) on the NIH Campus (Appendix A).

MINUTES FROM THE MAY 3, 2001 NCC MEETING

Minutes from the May 3, 2001, NCC Meeting were sent to NCC members prior to the meeting. Dr. John Milner, NCI, moved to approve the minutes. The minutes of NCC Meetings are posted on the DNRC Website <http://dnrc.nih.gov/meetings.htm> without attachments unless the attachments are available in electronic form.

UPDATE OF DNRC ACTIVITIES

Human Nutrition Research Information Management (HNRIM)

Mr. Jim Krebs-Smith, DNRC, reported that nearly all NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs) had submitted their FY2000 data for HNRIM and that data entry, review, and confirmation was complete for two-thirds of the ICs. He is working with several of the ICs that have not yet submitted data. Members were reminded that the Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) review of dietary supplement-related coding was beginning, and that ICs may be contacted for approval of recommended revisions. Upon completion of the ODS review, IC HNRIM data will be posted to the public website. Lastly, Mr. Krebs-Smith reported that several improvements to the data update website would be implemented, including availability of on-line reports (detail, summary, snap).

Nutrition Education

Dr. Jean Pennington, DNRC, provided an update of the work of the NCC Nutrition Education Subcommittee (NES). Since the beginning of 2001, the NES has reviewed ten documents. Most recently, the NES completed reviews for the USDA/Center for Nutrition and Public Policy (CNPP) document, *How Much are You Eating* and the CDC Bone Health Website. The Society for Nutrition Education (SNE) is holding its annual meeting on July 20-24, 2001, in Oakland, California. The DNRC will be hosting a tabletop exhibit during the SNE Research Arena to distribute NIH nutrition education materials. Several Institutes and Offices will be providing materials.

INTERNATIONAL NUTRITION

Dr. Dan Raiten, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) provided an overview of ongoing activities of the International Food and Nutrition Forum of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS)/Food and Nutrition Board. He began with a brief review of the role of NIH in support of this program. Approximately a year ago, NAS had approached NIH with the proposal for the forum to be convened on a semi-regular basis. Various IC representatives and others formed a consortium, which will meet three times per year. The NIH contribution to this effort will be \$100,000 over the first three years of the program. Matching funding is provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The goal of the Forum is to bring interested United States Government agencies together with a number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to discuss current topics in international food and nutrition.

Dr. Raiten reported on the first substantive meeting of the Forum, which was held on Friday, June 29, 2001, at the NAS facilities in Washington, D.C. (Appendix B). The focus of this meeting was to discuss the process by which research is translated into programs. Among the items discussed was the newly created Global Nutrition Institute presented by Dr. Eileen Kennedy, the newly appointed Director. Several representatives of NGOs reported on their experiences in moving from science to program implementation; the intent is the translation of scientific findings to practical application in the public setting.

Dr. Raiten and Dr. Hubbard discussed a proposal for the formation of a trans-NIH Committee on International Nutrition Research (Appendix C). It is suggested that this trans-NIH Committee could be an NCC subcommittee coordinated by the DNRC. It might begin with IC members interested in international research and evolve to include members from other agencies and organizations. The subcommittee might have co-chairs from the Fogerty International Center (FIC) and

NICHD's Office of Prevention Research and International Programs. The proposed goals of the subcommittee would be to: (1) coordinate NIH efforts to address research needs associated with food insecurity, malnutrition, and micronutrient deficiencies in developing countries; (2) expand NIH supported research through identification of critical research questions; (3) explore opportunities for collaboration with other agencies/ organizations engaged in related research; (4) expand opportunities for training young scientists; and (5) explore more effective ways to disseminate research findings, exchange information, and translate research into application.

(The proposal was also presented at the July 11 meeting of the NIH International Representatives Meeting conducted by the FIC.)

DIETARY INTAKE SURVEY INTEGRATION UPDATE

Dr. Kathleen Ellwood, Agricultural Research Service (ARS)/USDA and Mr. Clifford Johnson, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)/CDC provided an update on the integration of the Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals (CSFII) and the *National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)* to form the National Food and Nutrition Survey. This dietary portion of the survey is called *What We Eat in America*. A Stakeholders' Meeting was held on June 12, 2001, in Beltsville, Maryland, to provide an update and to hear questions and concerns. Questions and answers relative to the integration will soon be on both the NCHS and ARS Websites. It is difficult to meet all the user needs in one survey every year. However, it may be possible to use a modular approach to rotate specific questions/measurements over several years, depending on available funds.

A pilot study is underway with about 100 participants (one-quarter of whom are Hispanic) to determine if the new automated dietary intake method works well in the NHANES Mobile Examination Center (MEC) environment. Another stakeholders' meeting is planned for the fall. Representatives from ARS and NCHS have provided information about the survey at various national meetings, and the survey is expected to begin in January, 2002.

Dr. Catherine Loria, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), asked about the comparability of the new survey with past surveys, and the ability to determine trends in food and nutrient intake. The response noted that there have been many methodology changes, as well as changes to the food composition database, and that the panel that recently reviewed the new food consumption methodology recommended not looking back for trend studies. In addition, ARS plans to conduct studies using the doubly-labeled

water techniques to determine the validity of calorie intakes on a subpopulation of the new survey. NCHS/ARS welcomes input with regard to doing comparative studies.

Dr. Sue Krebs-Smith, NCI, mentioned that NCI provided a proposal to include a food frequency questionnaire with the survey. This would allow for the assessment of intake of infrequently consumed foods that might be missed with two 24-hour dietary recalls. Dr. Krebs-Smith also suggested the need for information on the funding and source of funding of various parts of the survey. This might help government agencies make decisions about providing funding for currently unsupported aspects of the survey. Dr. Hubbard indicated that, if appropriate, the DNRC would be willing to help facilitate discussion and coordination of activities regarding the unmet needs of the survey.

SURGEON GENERAL'S INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY

Dr. Paul Ambrose, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), provided information on the Surgeon General's continuing effort to combat overweight and obesity in the United States. The Surgeon General is acting in a coordinating role with government agencies to characterize the process and action to be taken. A *Listening Session on Obesity* was held on December 7-8, 2000, at the Lister Hill Auditorium on the NIH Campus. Information from that session was summarized, and discussions held with DHHS agencies and professional groups that could further the goals of addressing overweight and obesity. The Surgeon General's *Call to Action on Overweight and Obesity* is expected by the end of the summer. The draft *Call to Action* has been prepared and includes: (1) an introduction from Surgeon General David Satcher; (2) a summary of the science of overweight and obesity including health disparities, economic impact, and health benefits of weight reduction; (3) priority actions (currently about 60) and settings (school, healthcare, media, worksites, and families/communities); and (4) the call to work together. This last section will summarize current activities and propose new ideas to create a synergy of effort for potential next steps. The draft *Call to Action* will be submitted for clearance within the next several weeks, and clearance is expected to take six weeks. The document will then be made public. The Surgeon General's website <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/topics/obesity> and the NIH website <http://www.sgobesity.niddk.nih.gov> both contain information on this effort.

Dr. Hubbard mentioned the short time frame for this initiative during

Dr. David Satcher's term as Surgeon General. Dr. Hubbard encouraged persons interested in becoming involved in the overweight and obesity activities to contact him. He also noted that, at least within NIH, efforts would be pursued to respond to both the *Call to Action* and the proposed Prevention Initiative announced by Secretary Thompson.

Dr. Susan Yanovski, NIDDK, discussed a proposed Request for Applications (RFA) on *Environmental Approaches to the Prevention of Obesity* (Appendix D) to be initiated by NIDDK. The objective of the research is to develop effective approaches for preventing obesity in children and adults through modification of the environment. The RFA invites applications to study promising interventions that target environmental factors that contribute to inappropriate weight gain in children, adolescents, and adults. Investigators should partner with community organizations or businesses, such as schools, supermarkets, restaurants, churches, community groups, and worksites to develop interventions that could potentially be translated into larger-scale interventions. This is a trans-NIH effort that will be funded for \$2-3 million. The funding is expected for September 2002. This RFA will be of interest to a number of federal organizations as it is related to several Departmental efforts (e.g., Surgeon General's Initiative on Overweight and Obesity, Healthy People 2010). For more information, contact Dr. Yanovski, Obesity and Eating Disorders Program, Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition, NIDDK, (301) 594-8882, email address, sy29f@nih.gov.

REPORTS FROM NCC MEMBERS AND LIAISONS

Office Of Dietary Supplements (ODS) Update

Dr. Paul Coates, ODS, discussed some current activities of the NIH ODS. There will be a *Workshop on Clinical Research Investigation* on July 11, 2001, to assist the ODS in developing the next iteration of its Centers initiative. ODS, NCHS, and industry groups are sponsoring a *Workshop on the Dietary Supplement Ingredient Database Needs* on July 25, 2001, on the NIH Campus. With regard to evidence-based reviews of the efficacy of dietary supplements, Agency for Health Research and Quality's (AHRQ) evidence-based practice center at Southern California-Rand was selected to conduct a review and meta-analysis of the literature relating to the efficacy and safety of ephedra in three areas—athletic performance, weight management, and mood-related enhancement. Future evidence-based reviews will be determined with the assistance of a government-wide working group.

NICHD and ODS are coordinating a meeting on *Dietary Supplement Use in Women of Reproductive Age*, which is scheduled for January

28-29, 2002, in the Natcher Conference Center, NIH Campus. The report from a previous conference on *Dietary Supplement Use in Children* will be out soon. ODS and the FIC coordinated a *Workshop on Micronutrient Needs* that involved researchers from the United States and from eight countries within Central America. Goals of this workshop include raising the level of research and encouraging training and career development in nutrition in Central America. ODS is participating with the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) on the Research Enhancement Awards Program. Applications received from NIH ICs are being reviewed. Up to half a million dollars is devoted to this program, and ICs will be notified of ODS funding decisions by the end of July, 2001. Finally, Dr. Coates announced, with great pleasure, that Dr. Mary Frances Picciano will rejoin the ODS full time this summer. Among her responsibilities will be to establish a program of training and career development in dietary supplement research. She will also work with the Steering Committee of the National Nutrition Summit (held in May 2000) to coordinate the information from that effort.

Retirement of Dr. Ernst

Dr. Hubbard and the NCC members honored Dr. Ernst for her many years of devoted efforts to NHLBI and to the DNRC and wished her well in her upcoming retirement. Dr. Ernst was given a certificate of appreciation from the DNRC, a card signed by NCC members, and an NIDDK 50th anniversary coffee mug.

Other Updates

Dr. Hubbard called attention to a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) public meeting on August 13, 2001 in Washington, D.C. to discuss the labeling of foods containing allergens and the inadvertent addition of allergens to foods due to processing practices (Appendix E). Dr. Hubbard also mentioned the American Society for Nutritional Sciences (ASNS) July 2001 Public Policy Supplement (Appendix F), and a memo from Dr. Sooja Kim, Center for Scientific Review (CSR), regarding administrative changes in the Nutritional and Metabolic Sciences Integrated Review Groups (Appendix G).

Dr. Milner mentioned a joint USDA/NCI meeting on *Nutrition and Genomics* and said that a synopsis of the meeting would appear on both agencies' Websites. He also mentioned the August 6-8, 2001, *Workshop on DNA Methylation on Diet and Health*. Dr. John Story, a Professor and Graduate Dean at Purdue University will be on sabbatical at NCI for six months.

Dr. Ellwood noted that Dr. Johanna Dwyer from Tuft's University will serve as Assistant Administrator for Human Nutrition at ARS in

Beltsville, Maryland for a year.

UPDATES OF CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Dr. Pamela Starke-Reed, DNRC, noted the Planning Meeting scheduled on August 2, 2001, for a *Workshop on Physical Activity and Nutrition*. One of the goals is to encourage some measures of diet (e.g., food, energy, nutrient intake) in research that is focused on physical activity. Dr. Starke-Reed also mentioned that there will be a planning meeting in early September, 2001, for an upcoming *Workshop on Conjugated Linoleic Acid*, a food component associated with beneficial effects on cardiovascular disease, cancer, and weight control. ICs, including ODS, NCI, NHLBI, and DNRC, will be involved in this workshop.

NEXT NCC MEETING

The next meeting of the NCC is scheduled for September 6, 2001. There will be no meeting in August, 2001. The NCC will be notified via email of any important events that occur in the interim. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. to honor Dr. Ernst's retirement with light refreshments.

The agenda, list of attendees, and appendices of the July 5, 2001, NIH NCC Meeting follow these minutes.

LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix A - Obituary from the Washington Post and Memorial Service for Dr. Carolyn Clifford, NCI
- Appendix B - International Food and Nutrition Forum Meeting, FNB, Institute of Medicine (IOM), NAS
- Appendix C - Proposal for a Trans-NIH Committee on International Nutrition Research
- Appendix D - RFA on *Environmental Approaches to the Prevention of Obesity*
- Appendix E - Announcement of FDA Public Meeting on Food Allergens
- Appendix F - ASNS Public Policy Supplement, July 2001
- Appendix G - Administrative Changes in the Nutritional and Metabolic Sciences Integrated Review Groups (Memo from Dr. Sooja Kim)

